

WHITES RUN BAPTIST CHURCH

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MUSIC:

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Sunday, April 7, 2024

Announcements

- **Annie Armstrong Easter Offering:** Please give to support North American Missions. See anniearmstrong.com for more information.
- **Family Dinner, every Sunday 12:00-?.** Everyone is invited.
- **Prayer Meeting, Wednesday 7:00 PM:** Come pray with us for our church, and our community.
- **New World View class for kids: Sundays, 6:00 PM.** Help kids learn the truth of Jesus Christ to understand the world and live faithfully in it.

Friend; John 15:12-17; Genesis 18.

Today's Point: Jesus calls us friends because our relationship with Him is far more intimate and invested than that of mere servants.

Friendship with God

- The Greek word φίλος, philos, usually translated as "friend," refers to a relationship more intimate than a mere acquaintance. At times it refers to a close associate, a "best man," confidant, or counselor.
- Used by Jesus here: John 3:29, 11:11, 15:13-15; Matthew 11:19; and elsewhere.
- To understand how Jesus is our friend, we must look to biblical examples of friendship between a lesser and a greater:
- Moses - Exodus 33:11;

- Miscellaneous - 1 Chronicles 27:33; Daniel 3:27.
- Abraham - Genesis 18:19; 2 Chronicles 20:7; Isaiah 41:8; James 2:23; Genesis 26:24.

Knowledge

- Friendship with God comes with the privilege of knowledge. John 15:15; Genesis 18.
- This was the intended model for mankind: Genesis 1:26-28; that is being restored by Jesus: Matthew 19:28; 2 Timothy 2:12; 1 Corinthians 6:2-3; Revelation 2:26-27, 3:21; Matthew 28:18-20.

Obedience

- The sure sign of true friendship with God is obedience: John 15:14, 15:10, 14:15, 14:23. Matthew 5:14-16.
- But in John 15:14 - he is being specific - the command that we love one another, John 15:12; as given in John 13:34-35.
- Friends of the Lord Jesus Christ obey his commands, especially His command to love one another.

Love

- Christian love is not primarily a feeling, but an act of the will - laying down our lives in the interests of others. John 15:13; 1 John 3:16; Romans 5:10.

Encouragements

- Consider the privileged position granted to us by grace.
- Love one another.
- Build the Kingdom

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